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Message Text

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60
ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01 AGR-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

OMB-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /137 W
---------- 110643
P R 241810Z SEP 76
FM USDEL MTN GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1906
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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ACTION STR

PASS MATTHEISEN

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ETRD, MTN
SUBJECT: SAFEGUARDS GROUP MEETING, OCTOBER 27-29: INITIAL MTN DEL INPUT

1. MAIN POINT OF UP-COMING MEETING GROUP SAFEGUARDS IS OPPORTUNITY FOR OTHER DELS TO OFFER CONSIDERED REACTIONS AND FURTHER QUESTIONS ON U.S. PROPOSAL TABLED AT JULY MEETING OF GROUP. WE ARE ALSO LIKELY TO FACE INCREASED PRESSURES FROM LDCS, ON BASIS OF THEIR PREVIOUS PROPOSALS, TO EXPLAIN HOW THEY FIT INTO THE SYSTEM ENVISAGED BY U.S., AS WELL AS INSISTENCE ON FURTHER SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON THEIR PROPOSALS. LDCS MAY WELL TRY TO ORIENT WORK IN THIS MEETING TOWARD A "PARALLEL APPROACH" SO THAT EACH ELEMENT OF U.S. PROPOSAL WILL BE CONSIDERED FROM
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STANDPOINT OF ITS S&D CONTENT.

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2. AT THIS STAGE WE DO NOT EXPECT OTHER DELS TO TABLE WRITTEN POSITIONS. JAPANESE REP INDICATES THAT JAPANESE PAPER FORECAST AT LAST MEETING WILL NOT BE SUBMITTED THIS TIME, OWING TO CURRENT TIKYO PREOCCUPATION WITH TARIFF PROPOSALS. WHILE EC MAY MAKE A SPECIFIC STATEMENT ON SELECTIVITY, PRESENT THINKING IS NOT TO ENTER IT INTO WRITTEN RECORD. NORDICS MIGHT ALSO WANT TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS ON SELECTIVITY BUT SEEM TO BE TAKING LOWER PROFILE ON THIS ISSUE AT PRESENT. TABLE ALREADY LITTERED WITH LDC PROPOSALS LARGELY LIMILAR AND NO MORE ARE EXPECTED.

3. IF SITUATION REGARDING WRITTEN PROPOSALS REMAINS AS DESCRIBED ABOVE, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IN AOUR INTEREST AT PENDING MEETING TO AVOID ANY DETAILED SUMMING-UP, OR PROPOSALS FOR SUBSEQUEST SUMMARY DOCUMENT BY SECRETARIAT, AS WAS EARLIER DONE IN WORK ON SUBSIDY/COUNTERVAIL AND CUSTOMS VALUATION. (EC COMMISION PRESENTLY LEANING TOWARD SUCH SUMMARY.) ABSENT OTHER WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS, RESULT OF SUCH EXERCISE AT MOMENT WOULD SIMPLY BE TO ARRAY LDC S&D PROPOSAL AGAINST CORRESPONDING ELEMENTS OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL, THUS INCREASING PRESSURE TO MODIFY U.S. CONCEPTS. PREFERABLE OUTCOME, IN OUR VIEW, WOULD BE SEMPLE, NON-SUBSTANTIVE, INTERIM SUMMING-UP ANTICIPATING FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AT SUBSEQUEST MEETING. HOWEVER, ASSUMING FORMAL VIEWS OF SOME DCS HAVE BEEN DELEVERED OR TABLED BY TIME OF FOLLOW-UP MEETING, W THINK LONGER-RUN OBJECTIVE OF THIS PHASE OF THE WORK (WHICH MIGHT FINISH AT THAT SECOND MEETING) WOULD BE TO ESTABLISH UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRIORITY ISSUES WHICH MUST BE NEGOTIATED, IDEALLY, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK SET OUT BY THE U.S. PROPOSAL. SUCH FOLLOW-ON MEETING COULD BE SET FOR EITHER MID-DECEMBER OR MID-TO LATE-JANUARY, DEPENDING ON U.S. PREFERENCES AS TO PACE OF THE GROUP'S WORK.

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4. ON CHAIRMANSHIP QUESTION, NO CONSENSUS HAS EMERGED ON SUCCESSOR TO COLLIANDER, ALTHOUGH GREY OF CANADA AND DE GEER OF SWEDEN HAVE BEEN MENTIONED. EC OFFICIALLY CLAIMS ITS STANDARD PREFERENCE FOR SECRETARIAT CHAIRMAN APPLIES IN THIS CASE, WHILE SECRETARIAT SEEMS TO ENVISAGE PACKAGE DEAL INVOLVING ALSO GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT SUBGROUP AND PROSPECTIVE FRAMEWORK IMPROVEMENT GROUP.

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5. HARTZELL TRAVELING TO WASHINGTON THIS WEEKEND
FOR ISAC MEETINGS AND SUPPLY ACCESS AND GATT REFORM
CONSULTATIONS, AND WOULD APPRECIATE
OPPORTUNITY OF SHARING WITH SAFEGUARDS TASK FORCE
MORE DETAILED PRELIMINARY REACTIONS OF LACAL DELS TO
U.S. SAFEGUARDS PROPOSAL, AS NOTED IN RECENT
CONVERSATIONS HERE. ALSO IN THAT CONNECTION
WE WOULD APPRECIATE EXPEDITED EFFORT BY USDA REPS AND
OTHERS TO FINALIZE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED BY
CANADIAN DEL IN LATE JULY (MTN GENEVA 6003, 6004), SO
THAT HARTZELL CAN CARRY THESE BACK ON RETURN TO
GENEVA EARLY OCTOBER.WALKER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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